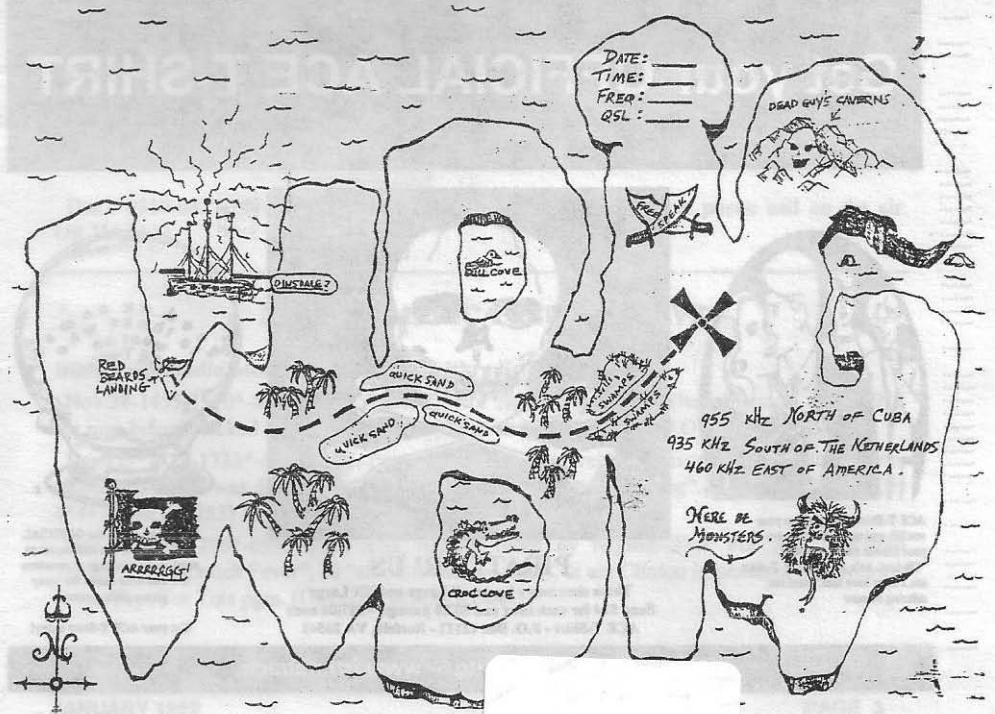


DIALOG THE

ACE

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 1999



FRN THE FREE RADIO NETWORK

"Pirate Radio Invades the World Wide Web!"



- ✓ Audio Clips
- ✓ Photos
- ✓ QSLs
- ✓ The ACE
- ✓ Chat
- ✓ News
- ✓ The Grapevine
- ✓ Over 1000 Links

We are proud to host the new ACE website!

Get your OFFICIAL ACE T-SHIRT

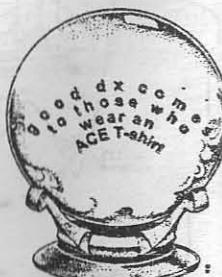


ACE T-Shirts will improve your sex life and make you the envy of your friends and co-workers.
"Oh look, he's got his ACE T-shirt on, I must have him", said the adoring blonde!



PIRATES R' US

Three sizes only - Large - X Large and XX Large
Send \$14 for each shirt and \$3.00 postage = \$17.00 each
ACE T-Shirt - P.O. Box 12112 - Norfolk, VA 23541



When one wears the OFFICIAL ACE T-Shirt, one can expect to receive the blessings of awesome DX and hear exotic far away pirate radio stations!

Get your ACE T-Shirt today!

Visit the ACE Website - www.frn.net/ace

DIALOGS January 1999

Joe Filipowski; 28 Mill Wheel Rd., Warwick, RI 02886-8453
JoeFLIPS@aol.com (401) 736-8826

- LATE LOGS -

Radio Halloween: 10/30-2317-6955-USB. (DK,OH 544)

Voice Of The Pigs Ear: 10/31-2029-6955-USB. (DK,OH 233)

- FROM ACROSS THE POND -

Britain's Better Music Station-55D Chester Road, London N19 5DF, England
Dec.6-0805-0812-6199.4-AM. Mx:"Life In The Fast Lane" & "Take It Easy" by The Eagles.
(JR,VA 111)

Laser Hot Hits-Merlin, ONT

Nov.29-0052-0100-6220-AM. Some tx, mx:"Let It Be" by The Beatles. (GM,CT 231)

Radio Cochiguaz-Casilla 2571, 1000 Buenos Aires, Argentina

Nov.22-0001-0031+-6980-LSB. Mainly huaynos mx w/frequent SS IDs by OM, YL annr occasionally, wiped out by RFPI on 6975 @0045 UTC. (GZ,OH weak)

Radio Free London-Cedex, France

Dec.6-0741-0757-6305-AM. Classic rock including "Glad All Over" by Dave Clark Five.
(JR,VA 212)

Shortwave Relay Service-Wuppertal, Germany

Nov.22-1158-1201+-21450-USB. OM w/mx including "99 Red Balloons", possible repeat of a pgm hrdr a few weeks ago. (RC,MA)

Nov.29-0429-0431-11470-USB. ID into an anthem. (JS,NE)

Dec.6-0634-0659-7590-USB. Classic rock by Three Dog Night, Guess Who, The Kingsman.
(JR,VA 222)

Weekend Music Radio-14 Stone Row, Coleraine, County Londonderry BT32 1EP

Northern Ireland

Dec.6-0819-0827-7446-AM. Mx:"Addicted To Love", possible live phone call on the air.
(JR,VA 212)

- NORTH AMERICA - SHORTWAVE -

Blind Faith Radio-Merlin, ONT & blindfaithradio@yahoo.com

Nov.28-1455-1510*-6955-USB. Annr Doctor Napalm w/mx by Blues Magoos, call to 911 abt man being attacked by a deer, annrd as a "hit and run" brdst. (LS,OH 555) (JF,RI 444)

Dec.12-*1713-1733*-6955-USB. Pgn of rock mx, sd no return postage required with reports, mentioned brdst was done "to help keep the pirate radio interest going". (LS,OH 353) (GZ,OH 454+) (GM,CT 253)

Dec.20-1647-1706*-6955-USB. Ted Nugent tunes by request."Free For All", "Wango Tango", "Cat Scratch Fever", sd "all oldies all the time", tx abt Clinton impeachment & Marine Corps Toys For Tots pgm. (GM,CT 454) (JF,RI 444)

Happy Hanukkah-Merlin,ONT

Dec.13-0517-0524*-6955-USB. Hrd end of pgm w/Hanukkah song & stn IS. (NW,ONT very poor)

Dec.18-*2300-2321*-6955v-USB. Deep voiced OM w/IDs, dreidel song & "Take A Walk On The Kosher Side". (GM,CT 341) (JF,RI 343) (JC,ONT 333)

He-Man Radio-Blue Ridge Summit, PA

Dec.5-*0358-0425*-6955-USB. Played "Puff The Magic Dragon". (JS,NE 433+)

Dec.5-*2229-2304*-6955-USB. Mx by CCR, Peter Paul & Mary, tx abt stn's first lengthy brdcast since Xmas of 1997, t-shirt promo w/a free shirt going to R.D'Angelo in PA, Paul Harvey "good day" loop. (GZ,OH 454+) (BF,PA good) (MP,NY good) (LS,OH 354) (MH,SC 343) (GM,CT 344) (JM,PA)

KMART Radio-requested reports to FRN and/or ACE website

Dec.6-0634-0649*-6955-USB. Songs:"New Year's Day" by U2, "We're An American Band" by Grand Funk Railroad, QRT w/"...time to go, see ya later, have fun, bye bye!". (SM,OK PLS QSL)

Dec.6-2140-2151-6955-USB. Testing w/Motown song "Get Ready". (BF,PA excellent) (LS,OH 353 as unid PLS QSL)

Dec.13-*1707-1722*-6955-USB. DJ Stone Cold w/pgm of rock mx, slogan of "Kiss My Ass Radio". (GZ,OH 454+)

Radio Chad-QSL info unknown

Nov.21-2235-6955-USB. Brief air check. (JS,NE PLS QSL)

Dec.2-0245-0247-6955-USB. OM testing. (LS,OH 353 PLS QSL)

Dec.5-0206-0315*-6955-USB. Pgm of mx by Pearl Jam, German metal songs, gave one stn ID by OM, sd last brdcast. (JC,ONT 333) (GM,CT 333)

Radio Free Speech-Belfast, NY & Blue Ridge Summit, PA

Nov.27-*2211-2230*-6955-AM. Bill O.Rights w/special "Fuck You FCC" brdcast, played various parody tunes like "Blow Me", phone call to FCC automation line, usual National Anthem parody @QRT, anned to be from a mobile xmtr. (GZ,OH 242+/343+), (GM,CT 232) (LS,OH 353 PLS QSL) (JF,RI 322) (JM,PA) (BF,PA weak)

Radio Metallica Worldwide-Blue Ridge Summit, PA

Nov.26-1338-1450*-7415-AM. Heavy metal rock mx, Clinton humor, put down of WBCQ. (DK,OH 444) (BF,PA good)

Nov.28-1808-1845-7414.6-AM. Dr.Tornado w/usual programming. (JC,ONT 444) (DK OH 455)

Radio Voice Of Trailer Park Ministries-QSL info unknown

Nov.28-2240-2305*-6955.1-AM. Rev. Dr. R.F. Fields w/choir gospel mx & preaching, anned as brdcasting from the Shady Grove Trailer Park in Orlando, FL, sd "first & only pirate religious brdester in America" & "only sane religious brdester on the radio". (GZ,OH 232) (JC,ONT 111 as unid PLS QSL) (JF,RI 232/222 as unid PLS QSL)

Nov.29-0025-0034+-6955.1-AM. Replay of 11/28, 2240 UTC pgm. (GM,CT 141) (GZ,OH 242)

Nov.29-0208-0236*-6955.3-AM. Replay of 11/28, 2240 UTC pgm. (MP,NY 3-444 as unid PLS QSL) (JC,ONT 322 as unid PLS QSL) (JF,RI 333 PLS QSL) (GM,CT 131/333) (CD,NC 343 as unid) (BF,PA weak)

Dec.13-0214-0242+-6955v-AM. Replay of 11/28, 2240 UTC pgm. (GZ,OH 353) (JC,ONT 222 PLS QSL) (JF,RI 333 PLS QSL) (GM,CT 242)

Dec.14-0208-0238+-6955v-AM. Replay of 11/28, 2240 UTC pgm. (LS,OH 353) (GZ,OH 242) (GM,CT 151) (RH,PA 455 PLS QSL)-Niel Wolfish & George Zeller pass along info that this station was first heard on multiple times in one night back in 1990, they gave no address & never replied to logs in bulletins. (JF)

Radio Xanax-Stoneham, MA

Nov.22/23-2357-0012-6954-AM. Mx & IDs, fadeout @0012 UTC. (LS,OH 253/151)

WACK Radio-anned 1-888-959-8177 or wackradiomail@juno.com for reports

Nov.26-1557-1710-6955-USB. Received calls from VT, NJ, VA, MA, Leave It To Beaver parody w/Billy Idol as the Beaver, parody ads for Hot Dog Home Condom, Jack In The Box, rock mx, guest announcement by Scott McArdle, mentioned FRN, some audio distortion. (RC,MA good) (LS,OH 252 PLS QSL) (CL,MA) (GM,CT 444)

Dec.5-0357-0358*-6955-USB. Cuaght end w/phone # & s/off. (SM,OK) (JS,NE)

WBIG-Belfast, NY

Nov.26-0121-0129-6954.9-AM. Phil Muzik & Big Mike sent holiday greetings, mx: "A Pirates Life For Me", "Mexican Radio", Rocky & Bullwinkle theme. (RC,MA 444)

WJFK-QSLs via loggings

Nov.22-*2227-2230*-6954.9-USB. Song "Midnight At The Oasis" followed by 2 stn IDs by OM, quick QRT. (GZ,OH 454+) (LS,OH 454 PLS QSL) (GM,CT) (JS,NE) (RH,PA 455)

WKND-Blue Ridge Summit, PA

Dec.5-2207-2228-6950-AM. Mx by Kiss & a few IDs. (LS,OH 444)

Dec.20-2125-2146*-6955-AM. Mx:"Big Bad Wolf", "White Rabbit", promos for Dept. Of Justice, Humaine Society Of The US, tx abt ACE & Hobby Broadcasting. (RH,PA 544)

WMPR-QSL info unknown

Dec.20-*2147-2215*-6955.4-AM. Xmas mx WMMP style, maybe a replay of last year's show? (RH,PA 554) (GM,CT 343)

UNIDENTIFIED

Nov.21-2353-255*-6955-USB. Part of a rock song then part of a reggea song. (GZ,OH 242)

Nov.22-*0113-0117*-6955-USB. Rock mx by OM. (GZ,OH 343+)

Nov.22-0209-0217-6955-USB. Techno mx w/technical glitches. (RH,PA 232)

Nov.22-2238-2244*-6954-AM. 60's style rock. (RH,PA 232)

Nov.26-1819-1834-6955-USB. Mx by Gordon Lightfoot. (LS,OH 353 PLS QSL)

Nov.26-1836-1851-6955-USB. Country mx, maybe Johnny Cash. (LS,OH 353 PLS QSL)

Nov.26-2225-2317-6955-AM. Stn on & off during time period. (LS,OH 453 PLS QSL)

Nov.26-2323-2350-6955-AM. Mx by The Birds, Lou Reed, Phil Collins. (GM,CT 535)

Nov.27-0218+-6955-USB. Instrumental mx. (LS,OH 252 PLS QSL) (GM,CT 232)

Nov.28-0310+-6955-USB. Ice Station Zebra doing a test, did this several times during the night. (GM,CT 333)

Nov.29-0018+-6955-AM. Soul/gospel mx. (LS,OH 253 PLS QSL)

Dec.9-0130-0136-6955-USB. Old Charlie Pride song, into profanities. (JC,ONT 222 PLS QSL)

Dec.14-*0358-0425-6955-USB. Played songs "Sole Survivor, "Sweet City Woman". (JS,NE 434/211 PLS QSL)

- CONTRIBUTORS / PLEASE QSL ADDRESSES -

John Arthur, 7994 Rte.19, Belfast, NY 14711-8702 (JA)

Brandon Artman, 515 N.Maryland Ave., West Chester, PA 19380-2255 (BA)

Rainer Brandt, Wiesenweg 6, D-29361 Hoefer, Germany (RB)

Brett Brumley, PO Box 242, Vienna, IL 62995 (BB)

Jerry Coatsworth, RR #3, Merlin, Ontario N0P 1W0, Canada (JC)

Ross Comeau, 16 Linwood St., Andover, MA 01810 (RC)

Charles Crawford, 1763 Turnagain Dr., Henderson, KY 42420 (CC)
Elmer Cronkright, 3570 Oriole Ave.SW, Wyoming, MI 49509-3443 (EC)
Rich D'Angelo, 2216 Burkey Dr., Wyomissing, PA 19610 (RD)
Paul Demsky, 883 Broadway #2, South Portland, ME 04106 (PD)
Chris DeSanctis, 189 Charles Dr., Winston-Salem, NC 27107 (CD)
Dave Ditlow, 10573 W.Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90064-2348 (DD)
Joe Filipkowski, 28 Mill Wheel Rd., Warwick, RI 02886 (JF)
Bill Finn, 2905 Tyson Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19149 (BF)
Dave Fisher, 12 Dupont St.W #207, Waterloo, Ontario N2L 2X6, Canada (DF)
Michael Folk, 810 Dalewood Dr., Villa Hills, KY 41017 (MF)
Craig Harkins, RR #1, Hillsburgh, Ontario N0B 1Z0, Canada (CH)
William Hassig, 102 North Russel St., Mt.Prospect, IL 60056-2443 (WH)
Matt Haston, 22 Jamestowne Commons, Taylors, SC 29687 (MH)
Mark Humenyk, 26 Crestridge Heights Road, Weston, Ontario M9P 1A4, Canada (MH)
Ron Hunsicker, 1238 Cleveland Ave., Wyomissing, PA 19610 (RH)
Rich & T Jurrens, 19107 Winding Trail, Katy, TX 77449 (RTJ)
David Krause, 36889 South Lakeshore Blvd., Eastlake, OH 44095 (DK)
Harald Kuhl, PO Box 110605, 35351 Giessen, Germany (HK)
Ed Kusalik, 2117-10 Street "A", Coaldale, Alberta T1M 1B6, Canada (EK)
Jeff Leach, 12923 Binney St., Omaha, NE 68164 (JL)
Chris Lobdell, PO Box 146, Stoneham, MA 02180 (CL)
Greg Majewski, 1176 Route 163, Oakdale, CT 06370 (GM)
Scott McArdle, 3500 S.Boulevard Suite 18C, Edmond, OK 73013 (SM)
John McWilliams, 5229 E.Trindle Rd.-2nd Floor, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 (JM)
Greg Myers, PO Box 17186, Richmond, VA 23226 (GM)
Kevin Nauta, 1252 Ravanna SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49508-2504 (KN)
Gary Neal, 7410 Orchard Hills Lane, Sugar Land, TX 77479-6122 (GN)
Benton Owslay, 8439 Boise St., Ventura, CA 93004 (BO)
Marina Pappas, 366 3rd St. SE, Huron, SD 57350 (MP)
Dick Pearce, PO Box 8162, Brattleboro, VT 05304-8162 (DP)
Ray Pfaff, 4333 Cub Run Rd., Chantilly, VA 22021 (RP)
Mike Prindle, Box 51, New Suffolk, NY 11956 (MP)
Ed Rausch, 17 Vanderberg Place, Cedar Grove, NJ 07009 (ER)
Jesse Rose, 100 Margaret Dr., Hampton, VA 23669 (JR)
Robert Ross, PO Box 1003 Stn.B, London, Ontario N6A 5K1, Canada (RR)
Chris Scott, 4051 Clifton Ave. #3, Cincinnati, OH 45220 (CS)
John Sedlacek, 2728 North 45th Ave., Omaha, NE 68104-4527 (JS)
Gary Seven, 675 86 Street Apt.A2, Brooklyn, NY 11228 (GS)
Lee Silvi, PO Box 982, Mentor, OH 44061 (LS)
Harry Smith, 3740 Bosart Rd., Springfield, OH 45503 (HS)
Chris Smolinski, 4708 Trail Court, Westminster, MD 21158 (CS)
Tony Straka, PO Box 3178, Maple Glen, PA 19002 (TS)
Kirk Trummel, Quebec, Canada (KT)
Niel Wolfish, 112-2177 Avenue Rd., Toronto, Ontario M5M 4B7, Canada (NW)
George Zeller, 3492 W.123rd St., Cleveland, OH 44111 (GZ)

** DX NEWS OF INTEREST **

Deadline for February 1999 DiaLogs: January 20th

Veried Response

your center for QSL information and comment

John T. Arthur, proprietor 7994 Rte 19 Belfast NY 14711-8702

(716) 365-8870 (m.o.l) not collect e-mail: cc732@freenet.buffalo.edu

with help from the VR Troopers and other good Friends. VR is electronically transmitted to A*C*E HQ on or before the 20th of each month; please send your input and comments to the above address to arrive prior to the 15th. Your active participation in the form of input, reports, suggestions, and/or constructive criticism is solicited and welcomed. Unless otherwise attributed, opinions in VR are those of this mildly disturbed individual and should not be misinterpreted to represent The A*C*E as an organization, or any other sane person for that matter. Got a beef? Comments and complaints should be directed to this columnist in triplicate for round-filing - and NOT to any other address.

The Swappe Shoppe

buy, sell, trade announcements free to A*C*E members

Please be concise but complete: If you're looking for something, accurately describe what you want; if you're offering something for sale give make, model, honest condition, and asking price. Please help me keep these ads up to date! NO collect calls unless otherwise specified.

Wanted:

The Voice of Shortwave Radio is looking for someone to relay a Special program in the X-band; they'd love to have it relayed in the East, West and Central US, possibly simultaneously! Anyone in Europe able to do a relay or two? They're also looking for sources of jingles and promos, and does anyone have a source for "prank/crank" phone calls and/or commercials? Contact: Bubba at Voice of SW Radio, PO Box 109, Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17214.

Schematic, parts list and PCB artwork for 15 to 20 watt MW AM amp drivable by Panaxis or Ramsey rigs. Contact: Dick Hertz at Z Radio via Box 1, Belfast.

Literature on transistor radios from the 1954-70 era, including sales brochures, manuals, catalogs, flyers, and magazine ads; anything related to transistor radios with or without pictures! Also interested in kits (Eico, Heath, Knight, etc). Some magazines of that era (Nat'l Geographic, Popular Electronics, etc) had lots of transistor ads. Do not need entire mags, just the ads. Also looking for older pocket-size radios, store displays, pamphlets, and other promo items. Pls write to let me know what you have: Robert S. Ross VA3SW, Box 1003 Stn B, London, ONT N6A 5K1, Canada, or call (519) 685-1167.

For Sale:

If you do any electronic design or construction, you need the Electronix Workshop CD ROM. EW puts all the data, formulae,

graphs, and charts you'll ever need right at your fingertips in an easy-to-use standardized format for WIN95 and NT. For complete details and price info, contact: Renaissance Radio, 501 N. Mosquito Lane, West Grove, PA 19390, or phone (610) 869-3964.

Heath HW-101 xcvr, re-built by TRO, w/AC PS and mic: US\$140/obo, you ship. Contact: Franz, N33015 Square Bluff Rd, Whitehall, WI 54773 or e-mail to lbergman@win.bright.com

Go mobile! RS 140-watt inverter (cat# 22-132A) w/datasheet in good working condition : \$65/OBO, including shipping. Contact: jta

35mmAA active antenna, super small, runs on 9V battery, great for limited space or apartment use: \$15. Contact: Bud Stacey, POB 907, Satsuma, AL 36752. Pls state connector required.

Various FT243 xtals for older xmtrs, US\$10/ea. Contact: jta for complete list.

Micro'casting Gear For Sale:

15-20 watt FM amp - gives full power below 95 MHz, falls off some above, requires 2w drive and 10Amp power supply, with cooling fan: \$160 + ship. Contact: jta.

The A*C*E Awards Program

The Association of Clandestine radio Enthusiasts offers five (5) Awards for various achievements in pirate listening, as well as North America's first and only clandestine award! When you qualify and apply for an Award, you will receive a beautiful certificate suitable for dartboards and/or framing. A*C*E Awards are offered in the following categories:

1. number diff NAm MW & FM pirates QSLed in steps of 10 (See Note 1)
2. number diff Euro MW & FM pirates QSLed in steps of 10 (See Note 1)
3. number diff NAm SW pirates QSLed in steps of 20
4. number diff Euro SW pirates QSLed in steps of 20
5. number diff pirate countries QSLed with a minimum of 3
6. number diff clandestine stns QSLed in steps of 5 (See Note 2)

NOTES:

1. NAm listeners need only 5 Euro MW & FM QSLs to qualify; likewise, Euro listeners need only 5 NAm MW & FM QSLs.
2. For the purpose of the Awards Program, clandestine is defined as "an unofficial broadcasting organization which transmits bona-fide anti-government or liberation programming". Therefore, official government mouthpieces (e.g.: BBC, VoA and the like) and Voice of Tomorrow do not count as clandestines.

To apply for your Award, send a list of your QSLs (pls print or type) with US\$1 and one mint stamp to: A*C*E Awards, PO Box 1, Belfast, NY 14711. We no longer require photocopies of all your veries but we do reserve the right to request to see certain

QSLs. If you wish your certificate mailed unfolded, please enclose two additional mint stamps (IRCs accepted) or US\$2; overseas please send adequate for mailing.

Even More on the Radio Shack DX394 Receiver

adjust your AGC constant and more...

First a quick follow-up on last month's mod to fix the Noise Blanker. I opened my opened DX394 and adjusted VR1 to about mid-range and, wonder of wonders, it now does a little. I still plan to install the Schottky diode once I get the service manual, but for now it is an improvement.

A major pain with this radio is the AGC constant - although it might be fine for SSB, it's waayyy too slow for most DXers. The result is that signals appear "choppy" and QSB is prominent. Fortunately, there is a fix.

Once again, remove the bottom cover and place the radio upside-down with the front panel toward you. Locate C163 - it's to the right near center, just below Q9 and has four surface-mount components to its left. Install a 100 microfarad, 16VDC electrolytic across C163 to speed up the AGC action. You can make it even faster by using a larger value of electrolytic, or slower by using a smaller value. You could also attach one leg of the capacitor and run the other leg (via a shielded cable) to a SPST switch to have a choice of AGC action speeds; the switch could be mounted on the rear apron or, with much care, on the front panel just above the headphone jack. That's it for the AGC fix.

There have also been a few complaints about the RF gain control, which is properly used as AF gain when receiving sideband signals - the control only seems to work over about one-third of its' range. What to do? While you've still got the bottom cover off, locate R184: It's at the right rear of the PCB right in front of the DC input jack and has one end connected to connector CN4. Install a 4.7 or 5.1K-ohm 1/4-watt resistor across R184 to give you better tracking.

Some folks are terribly bothered by the dad-ratted BEEPs emitted every time they press any keypad button. There are two ways to remove this - one temporary and one permanent. If you're absolutely certain that you never want to hear a BEEP again, simply remove R156 from the underside of the PCB. If you're not certain, do this instead: Turn the radio off, press and hold CLEAR and turn the radio back on. Viola, the beep is disabled! If you later decide that you want to turn it back on, just repeat the procedure. Isn't that simple? Make ya wonder why that information isn't in the Owner's manual, doesn't it?

Finally, many of the radios come out of the box displaying off frequency. The newer models have a pair of trimpots near VR1 to adjust LSB and USB (one trimpot does each); to zero your AM reception, you should adjust L6 and VR2 - but be careful: It's really easy to screw things up even worse.

And again I thank fcathell and RickW999 for the info they posted in UseNet newsgroup rec.radio.shortwave. With a little luck, next month we'll have some information on mods and enhancements to the popular DX398 portable. Watch this space!

TROLLing for Pirates the rumor center...

ADD to Box 11522: WPOE...

Sure has been quiet lately! Funny how it only takes a couple "visits" to completely change the complexion of the Free Radio Scene...

There appears to be some QRP activity in the mid- to late-afternoons. Some one-watt stations are using frequencies in the 7370-7375 kHz range, according to my sources. Certainly be good catches...

It's not too early to think about making an appearance at the 12th annual Winter SWL Fest. Hosted by the "Gang of Three" at the Kulpsville, PA, Holiday Inn, the Fest is a great place to meet the people you've only Emailed in the past and talk DX until you're hoarse. If you've been there, you know what a good time it is; if you've never been there, you owe it to yourself to attend just one. Registration (Full is \$40, Partial is \$17, Spouse is \$22) should be sent to: Winter SWL Fest, PO Box 591, Colmar, PA 18915; all checks and MOs should be made out to Winter SWL Fest. With I little luck, I'll see you there...

Hate to nag, but since you will have some spare time this winter due to the pirate broadcasting slow-down, so how about voicing your opinion(s) of the latest crop of stations by casting your ballot in the 1998 ACE Pirate Poll? That should keep you busy for at least 15 minutes, anyway. Look over your logbook from last year and scour your entries to determine what stations you like the best and what stations you could just as easily do without; take notes, and rank your choices. You may cast a total of 12 votes: 3 Positive and 3 Negative votes in each of two categories, Programming and Technical. In other words, we want to know what you really, really enjoyed listening to last year - and what you didn't care much for. We'd appreciate a brief comment about each vote, but it's not required; nor is it required to cast negative votes if you don't wish to. On the other hand, feel free to dream up some "creative" additional categories that deserve mention; in the past we've had a "Free Radio Man of the Year" and a "Just Plain Clueless" votes. Send your ballot to: ACE Poll, PO Box 1, Belfast, NY 14711 between 01 Jan and 28 Feb 1999. Your ballots will be tabulated during March and the results will be in this precise location in the April VR. Your participation is encouraged; the more participants, the more meaningful the Poll can be. And remember, if you don't vote you have no right to complain about the outcome...

here's a look at what was slipped...

under the door the QSL report for January, 1999

Tony Benbenek was thrilled to get a full data card (#232) with newsletter and stickers from radio Titanic (via WREC) signed by Tim in about ten months.

Ross Comeau was puzzled by an unsolicited partial data QSL from WJFK with 7.415 crdssed out and 6.955 written in (this is the

first time he's gotten a QSL without even hearing the station!), and a no data "I got WACKed" sticker from WACK in one month for telephone report.

Bill Finn scored a full data card (#668) for program #31 from Radio Azteca in a month along with a Wall Drug and Cafe Brochure, a full data signed letter and Blue "VotTA studio orchestra" (#6) from Voice of the Twilight Alehouse in 1 month and returned one of the stamps, a full data "It's Official - You've Been Booped" sheet (design #2, boop #51) from Betty Boop Radio for August 22, 1998 show, a no data sheet with names all ending in Filipkowski from WMFQ signed by Mr. Q. Esselle, and a full data QSL (#271) from RBCN in 10 days for the 11/01 show along with a letter letting me know "Radio Bob is always out to help you beat the high cost of Free Radio!"

George Zeller was blessed with an unsigned no time "1998 Broadcasting throughout Eternity" sheet w/JFK's picture and November 22 tombstone from WJFK in 7d for logs in bulletins, and two freq only "I Got WACKed" bumper stickers from WACK in abt six months for call to their toll-free number. I presume that people will be counting these as QSL's [it looks that way, George, and it's unlikely that regular QSLs will be sent. jta] Also, a date only sheet (#3) from KMART ("Kiss My Ass Radio Transcontinental") signed by Stone Cold in five days for a report to FRN Grapevine, and a full data "pirate flag" card from Radio Blandengue signed by Raul Gonzales who said Canada relay site in 87 days for tent rept to Merlin for what I thought was R. Caliente but turned out to be this. Raul says their website:

www.geocities.com/Area51/Shadowlands/4401/blandengue.html

contains photos, logos, and other stn info.

Marina Pappas checks in with "a colorful QSL" (#23) from KORN in 4.5 months, and a no data sticker from WACK in 6.5 months. And she *almost* has 50 different stations verified! [great; keep at It...jta]

Ray Pfaff got QSL #18 from KORN and forgot to email us about it.

John Sedlacek got a pair of no data stickers from WACK as well.

John McWilliams chimes in with a full data card with station history and shack photo from TransAtlantic Radio in 189 days, and a full data card from Radio Halloween signed by Tommy Pickles in 39 days with letter saying that, "unfortunately the guys from the FCC were also..."

Ye Olde Columniste scored a brace of no data stickers from WACK like everyone else. Now we face the question: Are these actually countable as QSLs?

'zit for this month. Best of DX in the New Year, and 73 from Belfast!

SIG file tag line of the month:

Smith & Wesson - the original point & click interface!

CLANDESTINE PROFILE

George Zeller; 3492 West 123rd St.; Cleveland, OH 44111-3553
georgez@acclink.com

Your loggings, information, and speculations about clandestine radio stations are always very welcome for this column. You can send them direct to your editor at 3492 West 123rd Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44111. Or, you can call (216) 941-3366 anytime, or else (216) 696-9077 between 1200-2045 UTC weekdays. E-mail input is welcome via my georgez@acclink.com address.

LA VOZ DE LA RESISTENCIA

While we are not exactly in the good old days when any DXer could easily hear multiple Western Hemisphere clandestine stations on any evening even with a cheap portable receiver, this DX season is producing quite a few logs of the Colombian clandestine La Voz de la Resistencia. One of them comes from me. I heard what almost certainly was this station on 6239.8 kHz November 29 between 2245-2300 UTC. Although the signal was quite weak and I did not copy what I would consider to be a 100% definite ID, programming consisted of Spanish language talks by male and female announcers, mixed in with regional music. This fits the programming format that the station has been using. I'd been trying to hear this one for years, so I was pleased by this particular logging.

There have been a significant number of loggings of Resistencia in the morning near sunrise greyline conditions. For instance, in *Numeros Uno* #1503, Don Moore of Iowa heard them on November 22 from 1053-1115 UTC with a program mainly consisting of music, supplemented by an anthem and an ID at 1100. Don reported a weak signal that made copy difficult. But, Terry Kreuger of Florida noted them on November 23 from 1044-1102 UTC with a "great signal." Both Don and Terry remarked on the fact that music makes up an unusually large portion of their programming, which is somewhat odd given the extreme left wing nature of the FARC, which operates the station. It appears that signals are clearly better in the southern USA than they are in other parts of North America.

Kreuger says that the carrier operates on 6239.78, just a hair below 6239.8. I can confirm this from my own log. Also, my logging establishes that during the winter season, the station is operating around sunset greyline. A huge proportion of the loggings I've seen on the station have been in the morning at sunrise greyline. For instance, Don Novello of North Carolina (in Al Quagliari's Listener's Notebook column in NASWA's *The Journal*) noted them with a good signal on November 9. I have checked a couple of times for this one in the morning, even though it's tough to get up that early for DX purposes. I've been hearing a weak carrier a tad below 6239.8, which probably is the station, but little modulation comes through. I've had better copy in the evening than in the morning. This is something to keep in mind if you're trying for this signal from the northern portions of North America.

Novello notes that he copied an announced schedule of 1100-1230 UTC and 2130-2300 UTC. It's clear that we can try for this one either in the morning or in the evening.

In a related Associated Press article that ran on the October 24 wires, AP reporter Frank Bajak said that rebel military groups control 40% of the rural areas in Colombia. For instance, in the southern Colombia town of Puerto Betania, local elected officials report that the FARC has held ultimate control of this area for years. The FARC has prohibited voting in national and regional elections from the town. Ongoing peace talks continue between the Colombian government and the FARC, as well as a USA-financed military buildup that is being sold as an anti-drug policy. In the mean time, we have a clandestine DX target from South America, even if it constitutes tough DX.

RADIO PATRIA LIBRE ADDRESS

Many of us have been looking for an address for Radio Patria Libre, another Colombian clandestine that used to put a blockbuster signal into North America. In *Clandestine Radio Watch* #19, the address for this one is listed as Colombia Popular, c/o Tommy Weissbeckerhaus, Wilhelmstrasse 9, 10963 Berlin, Germany. This may be worth a try, so dust off your old logs!

CRW #19, citing The Four Winds Online 74 from Italy, indicates that Pennsylvania DXer and active antenna DXpert Bob Montgomery had a Patria Libre log on November 25 on 6250 kHz from 2230-2242. If you're trying to hear Resistencia, it obviously will also be worth a check 10 kHz higher to see if Patria Libre is present on the band.

EGBE OMO YORUBA QSL

ACE member Gary Neal of Texas is pleased to report that he received a QSL from Egbe Omo Yoruba, one of the Nigerian clandestines. He had their address as Yoruba House, 7600 Georgia Avenue NW, Suite 405, Washington, DC 20012. But, the success came from an e-mail that he sent to them at the bakpa@yahoo.com contact point. Verie signer Ben Akpa said the following: "I am glad to hear that you heard the Egbe Omo Yoruba radio broadcast. On the same frequency, you can also hear the Ogene Ndigo broadcast on Wednesdays at 5 p.m. Both services are beamed to Nigeria where the struggle for freedom and democratic government is still raging. Thank you for caring."

Gary's log was for a July 24 broadcast between 2136-2157 UTC on 15460 kHz. Congratulations, Gary!

CLANDESTINE RADIO WATCH

Martin Schoech of Germany checks in to remind us of the valuable service provided by his *Clandestine Radio Watch* newsletter, co-edited by our own Nick Grace. Martin notes that the links to this site on the ACE and FRN web sites are somewhat outdated. John Cruzan will eventually update them, but in the mean time, be advised that "current and old issues of CRW can be accessed on-line at <http://www.swl.net/swl-de/swl-cla.htm> and that the base of CRW's data is the Clandestine Radio Intel web using <http://www.qsl.net/yb0rmi/cland.htm> as its URL." Anybody with a serious interest in clandestine DXing will certainly want to be a regular user of both the Clandestine Radio Watch newsletter and the phenomenally good Clandestine Radio Intel web site.

RADIO SWAN

An extremely interesting commentary by Ron Rackley of Florida was posted on the rec.radio.shortwave newsgroup November 10. This lengthy retrospective was printed in its entirety in the November 26 issue #18 of *Clandestine Radio Watch*, which you can access via the above referenced web link. Among other things, Rackley notes that the Radio Swan (later Radio Americas) transmitter, which of course was used during the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba during the early 1960's, originally was purchased during the 1950's for the then-clandestine Radio Free Europe. Rackley notes that when the transmitter was moved to Swan Island, Navy Seabees built the facility in a record 30 days.

CUMBRE DX

Most of us are familiar with the outstanding *Cumbre DX* weekly DX newsletter, but in case you aren't aware of them, our own Ulis Fleming checks in to remind us of this valuable service. *Cumbre* is an exceptionally useful source of very fresh clandestine logs, which are mixed in

with many dozens of SWBC DX items submitted by their contributors every week. *Cumbre* does not cover pirates, which is the domain of *The ACE* and *Free Radio Weekly*. But, it does have fine clandestine DX coverage. If you need information on how to contribute to *Cumbre* or how to get sample copies of their newsletter, Ulis will certainly be happy to respond to other ACE members via his ulis@ix.netcom.com e-mail address. Thanks for the reminder, Ulis!

ZACHARIAS LIANGAS LOGS

Zacharias Liangas of Italy sends in some clandestine logs again this month. He's noticing good reception of the SENTECH South African transmitter carrying Nigerian clandestine Radio Kudirat. For instance, for several days in early December he bagged them at 1900 UTC on 11545 kHz. This one is also audible in North America, of course.

He forwards a blizzard of clandestine logs from November 28. These included the V. of NDA at 1626 UTC on 8000 kHz, with folk songs and commentary, the Voice of Mujahed at 1835 on 4640v//5750v kHz with talks in Farsi by male and female announcers, a tentative log of Iran Revolutionary Party on 4755 at 1825 with male announcers in Arabic, the Voice of the People on 3911v kHz at 1920 featuring a female announcer talking in Korean, and "Ira dengi geli Kurdistan" on 4060 kHz at 1952 with male announcers speaking fairly slowly in Kurdish and Koran recitations.

Some of these stations heard by Zacharias are normally inaudible in North America for most of the year at the times when he hears them. But, with early sunsets in eastern North America at this time of year, the low bands are definitely worth checking out for clandestine signals. If you've been following the USA bombing of Iraq on TV (how could you miss it?), you'll notice that Iraq local time is eight hours ahead of EST. So, prime time evening broadcasting in southwestern Asia takes place during our local early afternoons. Particularly if you live on the east coast, some of these signals will sneak in to our receivers during the winter.

CUBA MEGALINKS SITE

Maximo Thomas of Florida checked in multiple times again this month to remind us that his Cuba MegaLinks web site is still regularly updated. This internet service provides hundreds of links to web content involving Cuba, including many organizations that operate quasi-clandestine broadcasts via time bought on licensed USA shortwave transmitters. There are a number of links to recently available material from CIA files that is directly related to Cuba. We've mentioned this before, but I know that there remains some interest among clandestine buffs on the Cuban situation. The URL for Thomas' site remains <http://www.laker.net/nike/megalinks.html> in case you want to check it out.

BBCMS CLANDESTINE PROFILES

With thanks to Bob Grove of Grove Enterprises and *Monitoring Times* magazine, we have four clandestine station profiles from northeastern Africa that were recently published by the BBC Monitoring Service.

Eritrea. The Voice of Democratic Eritrea, also ID'ing as the Voice of the Eritrean Liberation Front Revolutionary Council, uses the Arabic ID of "Sawt Eritrea al-Dimuqratiya - Sawtu Jabhat al-Tahrir al-Eritrea." BBCMS says that it first was noticed on November 21, 1997. It's scheduled in Arabic and Tigrigna for 30 minutes daily at 1500 UTC on 9230 kHz. BBCMS believes that all three Eritrean stations listed here use a transmitter in Sudan.

Eritrea. The Voice of Free Eritrea comes on at 1530 UTC weekdays on the same 9230 kHz frequency for a half hour. The Arabic ID here is "Sawt Eritrea al-Hurrah," with a Tigrigna ID of "Demtsi Natsa Eritrea." It's been on at least since November 1997.

Eritrea. You have to be careful when listening to 9230 kHz, since a third clandestine also uses

this frequency in the 1530-1630 UTC period. The Voice of Truth, operated by the Islamic Salvation Movement (renamed from the former Eritrean Islamic Jihad Movement), has also been around at least since November 1997. The precise Arabic ID is "Sawt al Haqq," with a Tigrigna ID unfortunately not listed by BBCMS. Copy on this frequency in local North American mornings is probably going to be marginal to impossible, so maybe the ID confusion will not be much of a factor for us.

Sudan. The Voice of Freedom and Renewal, active since May 7, is the voice of the Sudan Alliance Forces. BBCMS says that this military contingent is made up of northern rebel soldiers who formerly were in the government. The group is part of Asmara and the National Democratic Alliance, which constitutes the main political opposition in Sudan. The station is scheduled daily on a variable frequency around 7000 kHz for an hour at 0400 and 1600 UTC, but BBCMS says that operations are irregular. We might run across this one while chasing pirates in the 43 meter band. Alternative ID's are the Voice of the Sudan Alliance Forces, and the Voice of the Popular Armed Uprising. The original Arabic ID's being copied is "idha'at sawt al'hurriyah wa al'tajdid, sawt quwwat al-tahaluf al-sudaniyyah, sawt al-intifadah al-shabiyyah al-musallahah."

VOICE OF THE PIG'S EAR

Last month we had an extended discussion of the FCC's Halloween pirate busts on shortwave, including mention of the semi-clandestine Voice of the Pig's Ear. It's time for a semi-commercial message. The March issue of *Monitoring Times* should carry a copy of the Pig's Ear QSL, which we might even run here in *The ACE* if space permits on the cover sometime. The station has announced that QSL's may be forthcoming for logs printed in *Free Radio Weekly*, although the station has no future plans at this time for a maildrop. Our membership thanks this station for contacting us!

VINCE HAVRILKO CHECKS IN

Veteran ACE members will recall the name of Vince Havrilko, who has sent in many clandestine items over the years. He recently checked in with some information on a property tax rebellion in Minnesota and Arkansas. If you're trying to contact Vince, his current e-mail address of havrilkv@cwnet.com will work.

VOA COMMUNICATIONS WORLD

The November 28 Communications World program with Kim Andrew Elliott at the Voice of America included an interview of your columnist George Zeller. Kim asked me about the Halloween pirate busts in North America. In the Communications World supplement we also discussed my early November visit to the Swiss Radio International transmitter site in Lenk, Switzerland, which is in the process of being dismantled. If you missed this show but want to hear it, the transcript of the program can be found on the internet at the http://www.trsc.com/cw/cw_981128.html URL. At <http://www.wrn.org/ondemand/> you can access an archived RealAudio file of the November 28 program.

THANKS!

This month we thank the following DXers who sent in material direct to this column: and Zacharias Lingias (Italy), Al Quagliari (New York), Martin Schoech (Germany), Maximo Thomas (Florida), Ulis Fleming (Maryland), Vince Havrilko (I lost your QTH, Vince; sorry), Voice of the Pig's Ear (North America), Gary Neal (Texas), and George Zeller (Ohio). Next month we all hope to hear from YOU by January 16 for the February ACE Clandestine Profile.

Micro 'casting

Bud Stacey, P.O. Box 907, Satsuma, AL 36572-0907

salstacey@aol.com

The sole purpose of this column is to enlighten & educate ACE members about the many facets of Part 15 and micro radio- this is YOUR column! Please send all newspaper clippings, tapes, station profiles and what-have-you to the mailing address or e-mail address above.

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Here's hoping there was enough good cheer to last you all year long! And I also hope y'all didn't "over-celebrate"!

LEGAL NEWS: I don't really want to start on a down note, but I feel the news is the news- what I get of it, that is. From gleanings of several newsgroups on the Web come more items of interest from your fellow radio enthusiasts- busts, jailings and Gestapo-type raids...so let's jump into it....

Prayze FM, a black-oriented Christian micro station has been hit upon these last months, seemingly having been on-again, off-again. True to their dirty tactics, the FCC approached Thomas B. Hooper, director of the Bloomfield, CT Planning & Zoning Board, asking him if Prayze FM was in any zoning violations; the Commission encouraged the city to crack down on the station on those grounds- **THE CITY REFUSED!**

Prayze FM has been covered by the Hartford, CT papers & TV extensively as of late; the originator of this particular newsthread wonders if "jackboot tactics" have been used against the station, whereas the local media has ignored or shut out coverage, resulting in Prayze FM's silence? By the time you read this, Prayze FM may or may not be back on the air. May good fortune be with you, Prayze FM, in your fight....

From Pete Tri Dish (forwarded from another forum) comes info about Free Radio Memphis's operators being jailed for 1-1/2 days back in late November. Excerpts from the text follows: "They were broadcasting from a parking garage and the cops & FCC swooped in...equipment confiscated...vehicle impounded...and they are being charged with theft of services because they were plugged into the outlet with an extension cord." More followed, basically saying the "Memphis folks were ready for jail since day one". If this is true, then it seems the FCC will use any tactic to get at micro operators! At the least, maybe trespassing could be the charge, but the Feds are bound by Amendment Ten of the U.S. Constitution where local laws/regulations are to be enforced by local law officials (individual state powers)- so it looks like the FCC may step in "it" on this one.

And on Dec. 7, 8 & 9, it was said that the FCC made another sweep of south Florida. "Pirate" stations in Broward, Dade and Palm Beach counties were raided & dismantled. Audio and even test instruments were seized from a tech in Palm Beach. The raids were reported to be conducted by a "multi-unit task force" of FBI, FCC, DEA and local police equaling about a dozen armed men (what were they going to do- shoot the ops or equipment? Bud). They broke in the door to shut down a remote station in a Miami apartment building. They were real serious- even people that had not been warned were hit & shut down...thanks, Wolf969.

Ruby Ridge, Waco, TX and others- now is it going to be micro radio operators? And when is the next BBQ, FCC?

AS FOR SOME GOOD NEWS: Radio Free Vermont's Hometown Radio Station has won judgement by default in a challenge of the FCC's jurisdiction, regarding intrastate commerce via radio! As specified by Title 47 of the United States Code, Sections 151 & 152, the FCC has only interstate and foreign commerce jurisdiction and DOES NOT have intrastate (within a state) jurisdiction. The full details are at <http://www.sover.net/~rfv>.

It is also said that this is the SECOND victory against the FCC in jurisdictional challenges. Since the FCC defaulted, they may NO LONGER pursue any action whatsoever against Radio Free Vermont and if they attempt to interfere in the future, the FCC and each agent involved will be in violation of Title 18 of the United States Code (criminal) and will be prosecuted as such. Radio Free Vermont is said to be regulated solely by the State of Vermont Department of Public Service (Public Service Board). Now, how 'bout them apples????

This could be a precedent set for ALL micro stations whose signals do not extend over state lines. Any/all stations may want to get copies of this information and have it on hand, as well as practice the information John T. Arthur reprinted in the December '98 ACE (thanks SO much, John!). Your local library should have the information you need- anyone having any on-line info, please send it to me at the e-mail address above- thanks!

EQUIPMENT NEWS: In late November, Seaside Electronics has put together a kit of high-quality replacement capacitors along with three other proven tested mods for the Ramsey FM-10. The kit includes all the parts & a detailed manual and is reputed to make the FM-10 more stable (we already know how to do that) plus gives it a little kick in the RF section (most likely NOT Part 15!). The website is: www.angelfire.com/biz2/csde/index.html; go to the hobby page, click on the mod kit, print the order form, fill it out & mail it in.

If this mod/upgrade boosts the RF output above that of Part 15, be sure to ONLY use the unit outside the U.S.A.!

I haven't explored this one yet, but for 1610 kHz AM transmitters, check out www.lpbinc.com....

STATION PROFILE: My good friend The Dude of AM600 (and other past quality operations!), a Wolf Radio Network affiliate has been busy getting his Carrier Current station's bugs aired out- I believe with adage and abettage from The Naked DJ. The Dude says with CC broadcasting, they can be heard about 2 kilometers. CC involves SAFELY coupling the transmitter's RF to the AC power line system; the RF travels along the power lines up to a point where a transformer breaks the wire in the system- but the signal can carry a little farther. CC has been used successfully in many college stations to cover the campus reliably. And, the legal limit is **FIFTY WATTS!** With the National Association of Broadcasters (New Age Bores, I like to call them) fighting micro radio tooth and toenail, this could be the way to go!

The Dude continues to produce fine program material and distribute it among other Wolf Radio affiliates to air on their respective stations; in fact, he just sent out series EH30- thanks, Dude! And keep up the good work in His service!

It's a wrap for this one- see you all in February! de Bud

Covert Comms

By Tom Sevant

305 Granby Street Frontenac, KS 66763-2440 Phone/Fax: 316-231-0228
tmsevant@fament.com

Welcome to a new year and a new column. I hope you had a great holiday season. It's time to look forward to lots of new numbers station loggings in 1999. But first, let's look back at some stations that until recently were thought to have all but disappeared.

The stations I am referring to are the Single-Letter High Frequency Markers (SLHFM's), also known as channel markers. These are stations that repeat a single letter of Morse code endlessly on a given frequency. On the 7th of December 1998 I found a D channel marker on 6550 kHz. It appeared there continuously for several days, but is now quiet.

Channel markers have been noted all over the HF spectrum for nearly thirty years or so. They were quite active in the 1980's, but their activity decreased markedly by 1990. It is now rare to hear one, although occasionally a few "beacon clusters," or a group of SLHFM's on the same frequency, can be heard. Most of these stations were operated by the Russian navy and used to mark a frequency for RTTY transmissions.

When listening to a channel marker, sometimes the CW marker will be interrupted by a few 5F CW numbers and a RTTY transmission. At the end of the RTTY transmission, the CW marker returns. An example of this is a P channel marker I heard on 21 May 1992 at 0140 on 3732. The P stopped and was replaced by "UMS UMS UMS," then 09728 82828 sent three times, and then into RTTY. Unfortunately I didn't have a RTTY decoder at the time so I can't tell you what the baud & shift was, or if it was encrypted or not. I believe others have decoded RTTY sent by these stations and it consisted of 5F groups. UMS is a callsign allocated to the Russian Navy in Moscow, although the station may or may not have been located in Moscow. Unfortunately, I didn't hear any RTTY from the recent D marker on 6550.

The beacon clusters that I mentioned earlier most likely have a different purpose. According to an article written by M. G. in the ENIGMA newsletter issue 14, these clusters are most likely propagation beacons as opposed to channel markers. I tend to agree with this. As far as can be determined, there have never been any RTTY transmissions from the SLHFM's that are grouped in clusters. These stations are too close together in frequency to be of any use marking channels used for RTTY transmissions. The beacon clusters are most often heard in Europe, although occasionally a group can be heard in North America on 7028 kHz, in the 40 meter amateur band. I used to hear a cluster group there often while in Europe, normally consisting of a C, D, and S beacon. Each letter was sent at a different speed & pitch.

The most active SLHFM's as of late are a couple of P markers I logged in 1993, an L marker with a chirpy transmitter on 3094.5, a few cluster beacons on 7028, and the recent D marker heard on 6550. As I have said, it is rare to hear one, especially in North America, so any time you hear one it's a good catch.

Some channel markers have been traced to different locations inside Russia. This list was provided by Rick Baker:

C Moscow
F Vladivostok
L St. Petersburg
P Kaliningrad
R Ustionov
S Arkhangelsk
V Khiva

Something new that I want to do for 1999 is include your loggings here every month. If you would like to have yours included, just send them to me at my email or snail mail address at the top of the page. Just use the normal format of including frequency, time, mode, and type of station. You may remain anonymous if you wish. Your station logs and information is much appreciated.

The Presidents Page

Pat Murphy - P.O. Box 12112 - Norfolk, VA 23541

WINTERFEST is coming up soon. If you've never attended the Annual gathering of Short Wave, Broadcast and radio enthusiasts' extravaganza, you should. I missed last year because of my job, but made it to the two previous years festivities. Had a blast meeting lots of people who enjoy listening to the shortwave, and listening to Pirates in general. You'd be pleasantly surprised to meet the many people who not only listen to Pirate Broadcasts, but it's rumored that some of the actual Pirate Broadcasters attend these conferences. You get to put faces to the many names you see in not only our publication but most of the other hobby newsletters have members attending. Most of these people are as uncomfortable at meeting new people as you are, so all you have to do is, smile and introduce yourself. You've made a new friend! The Winterfest has always had the best speakers on a number of special interest listening groups. ARQ-E, Sitor, RTTY, FAX, Packet, you name to mode, they have a speaker that can teach you something you didn't know. You come away from the Winterfest with a sense that you've gotten a Doctorate in radio listening, all in one big weekend.

Winterfest is held at the Holiday Inn, Kulpsville, Pa. It's about 30-miles North of Philadelphia on the N.W. Turnpike Extension. It's best to stay at the Hotel, but there are other motels in the vicinity and lots of places to eat. Service in the hotel isn't very good, so you'll probably want to eat out a lot. Rooms usually cost anywhere from \$60 to \$90 a night. Friday and Saturday are the two most active days and everyone goes home on Sunday. They have a banquet on Saturday night and lots of prizes are given out and everyone makes fun of themselves. Nicest group of people you will ever have the pleasure of spending some time with and sharing information about our hobby too.

Here's the information on how to register for Winterfest 1999. 12th Annual on March 12-13, 1999 at the Lansdale, Kulpsville, PA, 1750 Sumneytown Pike, Kulpsville, PA 19443 215-368-3800, make sure and tell the Hotel you want the "WINTER SWI FESTIVAL RATES" and they'll give you a better deal. Plan on arriving either late Thursday night or early Friday morning and spending a couple of days having a lot of fun and meeting a lot of new people who share the same interests as you. The Winterfest Website address is:
www.irscc.com/Radio/Events/Winterfest/winterfest.html

I've never met any Pirate listener who had a bad time at the Winterfest. The ACE always sets up a booth and has a table with Pirate QSL's, old ACE newsletters, T-Shirts and usually Andy Yoder will join us with his publications and T-shirts. Members stop by the table to say "hello" and discuss the latest Pirates they've heard and it gives us a chance to put faces to the names we've all seen over the years.

I've always come away from the Winterfest, after having met dozens of ACE members, with the feeling that we are a group of the nicest "strange" people in the radio listening hobby. If you can make it to the Winterfest 1999, please do, you'll have a lot of fun and go home with the feeling that you've just been on vacation with a lot of people that are crazier than you! See you this year at Winterfest!

Let me start the New Year off with Thanking the people who work hard every month to get this Newsletter out to you. Steve Rogovich, our Managing Editor deserves the credit for organizing the columns, the writers, the look and style and the content. He has done a remarkable job for the past two years and please, if you think about it, let him know you appreciate what he's done. Steve even double checks me on the Label database and fixes things when I screw them up, and he does it without yelling at me or calling me names or anything. Our Columnist's for their devotion to sharing the information about our hobby with you. Mary and Inez who print and staple the newsletter. Christen and sometimes Tara who give me a hand with the labels and stamps. Even the old Post Office did a pretty good job this year, only a couple lost and returned in plastic bags! Most importantly thanks to you, the members and readers of the ACE. Thanks for subscribing, thanks for making this hobby a lot more fun. Hope we all have a good time in 99!!!

VISIT THE ACE WEBSITE

ASSOCIATION OF CLANDESTINE RADIO ENTHUSIASTS
P. O. Box 12112, Norfolk, VA 23541-0112

The A*C*E is an association of individuals who find pirate, clandestine and covert communications an interesting part of their radio listening hobby. The primary existence of the club revolves around the publication of a monthly bulletin, The A*C*E. The bulletin reports on pirate, clandestine, covert and other unexplained broadcasts. Also, the readers are provided with other available material concerning motives, explanations and the theories behind these various broadcasts and broadcasters. The ACE as an organization, does not encourage, support or condone any illegal activity; we simply seek to understand the nature and reasoning behind such broadcasts. If your interests include listening to pirate radio stations, clandestine broadcasts and covert communications, The A*C*E is for you!!

All subscriptions, renewals, and queries regarding subscriptions should be sent to the above club address. Contributions for each editor should be sent to their own given addresses.

President and Publisher.....Pat Murphy, POB 12112, Norfolk, VA 23541-0112
Managing Editor.....Steve Rogovich, stever@infi.net

Our Editors...

Veried Response.....John Arthur, 7994 Route 19 Belfast, NY 14711-8702
Dialogs.....Joe Filipkowski, 28 Mill Wheel Road Warwick, RI 02886-8453
Clandestine Profile....George Zeller, 3492 W 123rd Street Cleveland, OH 44111-3553

Feature Editors...

Covert Comms.....Tom Sevart, 305 Granby Street Frontenac, KS 66763-2440
Micro-'casting.....Bud Stacey, PO Box 907 Satsuma, AL 36572-0907

ANNUAL DUES (includes a 1 yr subscription to THE ACE)

| | | |
|---------------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| U. S. & possessions | \$21.00 | MUST BE PAID IN US FUNDS |
| Canada/Mexico | \$26.00 | OR CHECK FROM US BANK |
| World Airmail | \$40.00 | OR US/CANADIAN POSTAL ORDER |

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Permission to reprint material contained in this publication is granted with the exception of work which holds a specific copyright, and provided written credit is given to The ACE on the same page on which the ACE material is reprinted. All material in this publication is the property of the author. The ACE publisher bears no responsibility for the content of this newsletter.

